

# *15 April 2006*

## *Saturday*

### READINGS

Psalm 27; Lamentations 3:37-58; Romans 8:1-11

### DEVOTION

As we finish our journey through Lent these past many weeks – we find ourselves at the darkest day of the calendar. It marks the “in-between” time. It’s the time between the death of our Savior and the hope of His resurrection. This day represents the “dark time,” when all we have is faith and a thin promise to keep us going. I imagine most of us have been “there” before.

Can we place ourselves in the shoes of the disciples... They had left everything to follow who they believed in their hearts to be God’s own Son. They watched as their own religious elders assisted in his capture by the Roman authorities, while Jesus almost willingly suffered the most humiliating and painful death of the day. Was their trust misplaced? Why did the God-Man take no action and demonstrate his sovereignty over evil? Was he powerless then, and do we sometimes find ourselves wondering if he is powerless to save us as well? When we faithful disciples find ourselves asking that question – we are in the “in-between” time. The lesson for me is so poetically resolved in the first half of Lamentations 3.

“He has filled me with bitter herbs and sated me with gall. He has broken my teeth with gravel; He has trampled me in the dust. I have been deprived of peace; I have forgotten what prosperity is... **Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:** Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. **I say to myself, ‘The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.’**” Lam 3: 16,17, 21-24.

Here we find the prophet reminding us in those dark hours, to take heart, to remember back on the goodness and faithfulness of our Lord – and to have hope. Easter is coming; so I remind myself, ‘The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.’

So on the day of our Lord’s descent to hell on our behalf, I can wait; I will wait, with hope that when I light the candle tonight at midnight – that I will start to see the light and love and hope of my caring Savior start to pierce my inner darkness. I will remember, again, the sweet comfort of a God who is willing to go to any lengths to bring me home to Him.

**COL Susan Sowers, Chief of Staff, 3rd COSCOM**